

WEEKLY TALLAHASSEEAN

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AN ANTI-REMOVALIST

Writes Plainly on the Real Situation

THE PEOPLE'S INTERESTS

As Viewed by One of Them Living Remote from the Capital.

It is the duty of every voter to carefully consider this subject. Unfortunately we who are of the masses of the people, too often do not think for ourselves on subjects of public concern. It is so easy to heed a plausible speaker or writer, to see everything as he presents it and to follow his lead without question, that we, either through indolence or indifference, submit to being thus led around by our noses. If we could only arouse our self-respect, to our own thinking and analyze what the so-called leaders say, we would often find that we had been led by sophistry, false ideas, false statements, selfish designs, and caused, perhaps, to vote against our own interests. Politicians and schemers are quick to note the advantage we unthinking people leave within their grasp and to make use of it at our expense.

Now then, for once, let us who have been in the habit of allowing other men to do too much of our thinking for us, take up this matter and think it out for ourselves—it will require only a few minutes.

Why should the Capital be removed? This is the question we want answered in our minds before we vote on it. Many alleged reasons have been urged for its removal, but none seemed to possess so much importance, perhaps, as the matter of "accessibility." Other cities which want the Capital, stress their more central location and greater railroad facilities. There being less distance to travel; and so, less expense, they say we all would go to the Capital to transact our business with the seat of government.

Another reason for removal, which is calculated to influence voters, is the assertion that the present Capitol building is too small and too old, and is in a crumbling and unsafe condition, insufficient to protect the valuable property of the State deposited within it.

Another reason or inducement to remove the Capital is the "offer" by one or two cities of substantial aid in bearing the great expense incidental to the change.

There are other excuses named for asking the people to vote for removal, but they are trivial beside the seeming magnitude of those above enumerated. Those are plausible enough to convince the average voter—the purpose for which they were intended.

And now that we have obtained the chief reasons why the Capital should be removed, let us examine the other side (as thinkers, do not forget there are invariably two sides to a question) and see if there be any stronger reasons why the Capital should not be removed.

We will first ascertain whether the arguments used for removal can be sustained, and will take up the question of accessibility first. We will admit that, geographically, Tallahassee is by no means central, and that she has not so great or so many transportation facilities as some other places. Yet, if the Capital were placed nearer our doors and at a railroad hub, would the fact be of any special interest or advantage to us or the average citizen or voter throughout the State. Do we who are the business men, the farmers, the mechanics, the laboring men—the very class of people who for the most part, constitute the real foundation, the strength, the character, the sinews (if not the wealth) of communities—do we have any individual business at the Capital? Aside from what little correspondence we may sometimes need to have with the Agricultural Department, what have we to do with the seat of government, save to send our law-makers there by our votes? True, some one might, in the course of time, have a case in the Supreme Court, but in that case the attorney would be sent and the little extra distance he might have to travel would make small difference in his legitimate fees; while our legislators make money by the distance, getting an allowance, as they do, of ten cents a mile, against the three or four cents they pay.

But, it might be asked, does not the distance prove expensive to some other classes of people? We answer

yes, it does prove so to many lobbyists, bummers and politicians who swarm like flies around every meeting of the Legislature; but would not we all be better off if the expense were so great that these fellows could not afford to go at all?

But to be fair, we will suppose that notwithstanding all things else, we feel that it would be a pleasure and pride to the State to have "one great commercial centre, with a fine Capitol building in the midst of it." Very well; but do we also feel that we would be willing to have a tax of a couple of million dollars levied upon and collected from our meagre resources to gratify our pride and pleasure? Or would it be just or kind to our posterity to hand down to them such a burden?

But let us take up the next reason given for removal: "The present Capitol building is too small, too weak to protect the State's valuables, and is fast going to decay." A speaker in Jacksonville the other day, characterized it as "an old hull and fire trap—a fit habitation for owls and bats." Upon examination, however, we find the facts are thus:

CAPITOL BUILDING AT TALLAHASSEE.

"Dimensions: 151 feet long and 53 feet wide; exterior walls brick, 24 inches thick; interior brick walls brick, 16 inches thick; columns of porticos 13 feet in circumference and 34 feet high, resting on bases 5 feet square and 12 feet high.

"This massive building was constructed in the most substantial and durable manner, and is today as safe and sound as when originally built. The outer and inner walls were built of solid brick, each office, or room, being surrounded by brick walls as completely as a separate brick building, and the entire building made practically fire-proof.

"The first floor of the Capitol building consists of eight large offices, and two rooms for State Armory, etc., with a wide hall extending through the building, besides a large open hall in the centre. In one of the rooms on this floor there is an immense absolutely fire-proof vault, built by one of the leading Safe Companies, in which is stored all of the valuable land records. On the second floor, which has a wide hall and rotunda, there are nine offices, and the Supreme Court Room and Library, the latter containing over 8,000 valuable books, with space for several thousand more in the consultation rooms. In the Treasurer's office, which is situated on this floor, there is a large absolutely fire-proof vault, securely built from the ground up, containing a splendid chilled steel safe, with time lock, which affords ample protection for all the funds and securities of the State. The third floor contains a large open hall or rotunda, two large offices, a large library, divided so as to be used for committee rooms, and in addition the Senate Chamber and Hall for the use of the House of Representatives. There are also in use in the building fifteen fire-proof safes which are sufficient for the security of the valuable records and papers of the different offices. These offices and rooms afford ample accommodations for the State Officers and the Supreme Court. The Legislative Halls are more than large enough for the two deliberative bodies to use with every comfort."

Copied from Report of Committee on the ground in Tallahassee this summer.

Now what should be said of the speaker who made the statements above quoted in a public speech in Jacksonville? It would be impolite to say he was lying, so we will not say that, but will leave the public to make the comparisons between his statements and the facts, and arrive at inevitable conclusions.

Now, we submit that if the Capital must needs be removed, it does not follow that the agitators and representatives of any place should resort to deception and arguments that do not bear the least semblance of fact. Our consolation is, however, that such a course can but react with the thunder of truth, and defeat such men and measures.

This speaker is by no means alone. Others in the same city, whose words are not at our command now, have been equally false in their assertions, and the injury they are doing their own city will likely overbalance any good that will accrue to the said city from the Capital removal scheme.

Now we come to the third prominent reason advanced as a ground for Capital removal: Jacksonville has "offered" a hundred thousand dollars to help defray the expense of removal, new site and building, and St. Augustine has "gone her" more than

one and a half times better and "offered" the site and \$250,000!

How princely all that sounds! Now the facts are (and facts are what we voters are after) that neither city has offered anything at all! Neither city can offer anything except through its corporate authority; neither city's corporate authority can offer anything without being authorized by a vote of the people to issue bonds for the amount; neither city can submit such a question to the people, because the Constitution of the State does not permit it; neither city, in the absence of any constitutional impediment, would be the remotest degree likely to induce the people to saddle themselves with a burden of a tenth of a million dollars in the one case and a quarter of a million in the other case, to build a house for the State, which would be the exclusive property of the State, and which, if built at all, should be and would be built by the State at large, and not at the expense, in any such disproportionate degree, of any community; neither city, if all the obstacles mentioned were removed and the sanction of the people could be obtained, would yet be able to make any "offer," for there is no one to whom the offer could be made—there must, in such a case, be a third party to hold the stakes, and require the securities, and there is no such party, nor could one be created, for there is no power in existence to create such a party, and the State could not possibly represent itself in any such barter and sale of the privilege!

Now just see what a vast amount of poppy-cock these alleged arguments in favor of Capital removal are shown by analysis to contain, and what an explosion of gas has followed the pricking of this now blasted bubble!

In view of all the subterfuge and whoop and hurrah, that has been unmasked, and in the light of plain, simple, common sense, and with the selfish—not patriotic—designs that glare through the plans and purposes of the unworthy agitators of Capital removal so revoltingly before our eyes, what is our duty to ourselves and to our children?

It has been clearly shown by careful and competent calculation (and has not been denied) that to accomplish the removal as contemplated, would cost the State, first and last, not less than two millions of dollars.

Our State is, in its great southern districts, at least, sadly impoverished by the loss of its orange groves; thousands have been reduced from comfort to poverty; we are unable to bear any more burdens and taxation than we are carrying; should we, therefore, vote to increase our load to the extent of two millions of dollars for a measure that is not now a necessity, that could not, and would not, help us to any degree in our distress, that would be only a public luxury and extravagance, and of no direct benefit to any except to the city that would be the successful candidate?

Is not the whole scheme as transparent as a fish net, and does it not, indeed, stretch itself round about us as a great seine to gather us all in, like a lot of stupid, helpless fish to be devoured for the fattness of its greedy manipulators? God forbid that we should be such dupes! Let us vote No!

A. E. PHILIPS.
Sanford, Fla., Sept. 14, 1900.

Oratorical Association.

The following circular letter is being mailed to the students of the different colleges in Florida:

Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 19th.—Believing that the school system of Florida is equal to any in the South, and that an association of the college men of Florida would be beneficial to the several institutions of the State, we ask and invite you to help us form the "Florida Inter-Collegiate Oratorical Association."

"The purpose of the association will be to meet once each year at some convenient place to be selected by the officers of the association. At these meets the different colleges entering the association will be represented by one representative. These representatives from the several institutions will contest for a gold medal, which has already been offered, and the winner of this medal will then represent the State of Florida at the Southern State's Oratorical Association. Arrangements have been made whereby the Florida Association will be a member of the said Southern States' Association.

"The railroads of Florida have partially promised to furnish free transportation to the representatives to and from the annual meetings of the association after it is organized.

"Believing as we do that the colleges of Florida are equal to those of any other State in the South, we see no reason why the said association cannot be formed in this State. Florida is the only State in the South in which there is no such association. Our sense of pride should spur us on to all in line and be equal to the other institutions of the Southland."

We have received words of encouragement from the presidents of the following Florida colleges, all of which institutions we hope to have enter the State Association: West Florida Seminary, Tallahassee; East Florida Seminary, Gainesville; Florida Agricultural College, Lake City; Rollins College, Winter Park; Florida Conference College, Leesburg; South Florida Military Institute, Bartow; and John B. Stetson University, DeLand.

"To form the said Association in this State it will be necessary for the students of the different institutions to send a representative to meet with representatives from each of the other colleges, to adopt a constitution and by-laws and select a date and place for the annual meetings of the association.

"The cost of the State Association will be small and is borne by the students of the several State colleges.

"We believe you can readily see whereby such an association will be beneficial to the college men of our State and hope you will help us to form the same. To accomplish this end we ask you to elect a student to represent your college at a meeting to be held in the city of Jacksonville on the 13th of October, 1900.

"When we meet in Jacksonville we hope to see a representative from your institution with us.

"Very truly yours,
"W. B. CRAWFORD,
"ASA. B. CLARK."

The Health Problem is most quickly solved by making the blood pure and digestion perfect by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. Its cures of scrofula, salt rheum, dyspepsia, nervousness and that tired feeling are legion.

The non-irritating cathartic is Hood's Pills.

Misplaced Confidence.

About a year ago Miss Cassie Sweeting lost a beautiful gold watch. She employed Joe Donaldson to help hunt for it. Joe found it and slipped it in his pocket, continuing the search. When it was over he gracefully accepted a quarter for his services and walked off with the young lady's watch. Nearly a year later (last week) Joe was arrested for breaking into Gilmore & Davis Co.'s store, and was charged with possessing other goods. He sent to a friend for "that watch," and when it fell into Sheriff Pearce's hands, lo and behold! it proved to be Miss Sweeting's property. Mr. Sweeting's photograph had been carefully removed from the back. Joe will doubtless have to answer several indictments when the next grand jury meets. He has been trusted by almost everybody and has no doubt abused the trust in many more instances. Just how many more will come to light, however, it is hard to estimate.

A Frightful Blunder

Will often cause a horrible Burn, Scald, Cut or Bruise. Bucklen's Arnica Salve, the best in the world, will kill the pain and promptly heal it. Cures Old Sores, Fever Sores, Ulcers, Boils, Felons, Corns, all Skin Eruptions, Best Pile cure on earth. Only 25 cts. a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold by all druggists.

Dr. Geo. S. Wilson.

On Friday, the 7th inst., Dr. Geo. S. Wilson died at his country place, Thomas City, in Jefferson county, and was brought here on the following day for burial in the city cemetery.

Dr. Wilson practiced his profession—dentistry—in this city for more than twenty years, and had hundreds of friends, to whom the unexpected news of his death was a great shock.

About two years ago, suffering from dyspepsia and kindred ailments brought on by too close confinement, he abandoned his office here altogether and went into the timber business. His health improved and he had every prospect for a long life, but during the hot season of the summer just closed he exposed himself too much in the Spring Creek country and contracted typhoid fever with the result stated.

Deceased was about fifty-eight years of age. He leaves one son, G. S. Wilson, Jr., of this city.

Masonic Supper.

Chattahoochee, Fla., Sept. 14.—The Masons of Chattahoochee

Lodge gave a swell supper on last evening. People from near and far came to enjoy the sumptuous repast. After they had partaken bountifully of the elegant supper, cakes were raffled, the most beautiful young lady to get the prettiest cake. Miss Wilma Trammell, without opposition, was the winner. Miss Jones being second, received the next cake. Thus the evening passed.

A. SPECTATOR.

Cuts and Bruises Quickly Healed.

Chamberlain's Pain Balm applied to a cut, bruise, burn, scald or like injury will instantly allay the pain and will heal the part in less time than any other treatment. Unless the injury is very severe it will not leave a scar. Pain Balm also cures rheumatism, sprains, swellings and lameness. For sale by Wight & B.O. and all medicine dealers.

No Opposition.

General Patrick Houston, Florida's present distinguished Adjutant-General, and Hon. George W. Walker, the able State Attorney in this Circuit, will have no opposition in the Democratic primary next November. Capt. R. E. Rose, of Kissimmee, is the only candidate entered for State Chemist. Hon. W. A. Laws, who has held the office during the past seven years, declined early this year to be a candidate for re-appointment.

The emergency bags sent by a church society to Kansas soldiers in the Philippines contained among the necessities a box of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, the well known cure for piles, injuries and skin diseases. The ladies took care to obtain the original DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, knowing that all the counterfeits are worthless. All Dealers.

A Big Land Deal.

J. T. Bernard & Son, real estate dealers, this city, have just concluded a big land deal in Liberty and Franklin counties. The sale embraces between 189,000 and 190,000 acres and the price obtained was an average of in the neighborhood of \$2.00 per acre. It was purchased for the timber and may lead to extensive operations in the timber business at an early date.

Large sun spots, astronomers say, caused the extreme heat this summer, and doctors declare nearly all the prostrations were induced by disorders of the stomach. Good health follows good digestion. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure digests what you eat. If you have indigestion or dyspepsia it will quickly relieve and permanently cure you. All Dealers.

Tallahassee Will Get it.

When an anti-Capital removal paper produces argument that the Met. cannot meet, it calls this argument gush, bosh or something of that nature, or accuses the editor of being guilty of the "baby act." It is a bitter pill, we are aware, brother, but you must take it, for just as sure as the sun sheds his beams on the Land of Flowers on the 6th of November, so sure will Tallahassee receive that plurality vote.—Madison Recorder.

Have you a sense of fullness in the region of your stomach after eating? It so you will be benefited by using Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They also cure belching and sour stomach. They regulate the bowels too. Price, 25 cents. Sold by Wight & Bro.

What a Record!

There is no fight against Tallahassee.—Metropolis.

The Democrats of Florida know that the fight is between Jacksonville and Tallahassee.—Metropolis.

In no phase of the Capital removal "issue" have the removers failed to get on both sides of every question that has arisen. What sort of a record is this to go before the honest voters of the State with?—Pensacola News.

To the Dead.

A rich lady, cured of her deafness and noises in the head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums, gave \$10,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Address No. 1390 The Nicholson Institute, 780 Eighth Avenue, New York.

They Will Not Do It.

The Tallahassee Capital League is distributing broadcast over the State, literature that contains plain, comprehensive, unanswerable arguments in favor of the Capital remaining where it is and where it has been since the year 1823. We hardly think the voters of Florida can be inveigled into deciding to have its location changed against their pocket-books and better judgment.—Palatka Weekly Advertiser, Sept. 13, 1900.

When you want a pleasant physic try the new remedy, Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are easy to take and pleasant in effect. Price, 25 cents. Samples free at Wight & Bro.'s Drug Store.

CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Beware of cheap imitations.

Signature of J. C. Watson

MAN FATALLY SHOT

Jefferson A. Davis the Victim of John Williams

SHOT THROUGH A WINDOW

Williams Made No Effort to Escape and is Locked up.

Tuesday night between eleven and twelve o'clock at the residence of Mrs. Emma Williams, in the southwest part of the city, Jefferson A. Davis was shot through a window and, so it is stated, mortally wounded. Quite a number of stories have since been in circulation regarding the affair from which we glean the following as being the most probable story.

Tuesday night late Davis left Ball's pool room and went to the home of Mrs. Williams, where he was boarding. En route home he became sick, so much so that when he arrived he was vomiting. About a half hour later, or perhaps not quite so long, some one fired at him through the window, nearly the whole load of buckshot taking effect in the right shoulder and arm.

The party who did the shooting dropped a new pistol as he ran off and it was found there subsequently. This was identified as the property of John Williams, husband of the woman at whose house Davis was staying, who has been living apart from her for some time. This and other circumstances pointed to Williams as the assailant.

Davis' condition was at once pronounced hopeless by two physicians (Drs. Philbrick and Gunn) who were called to dress the wounds. Several shot had lodged inside and internal hemorrhages were going on all the time.

Early yesterday morning Mrs. Williams went before County Judge R. A. Whitfield and made an affidavit charging Williams with the shooting and he was subsequently arrested by Sheriff John A. Pearce and placed in jail to await the result of the wound man's injuries.

During the forenoon yesterday Davis sent for Judge Whitfield and upon the latter's arrival stated that he expected to die, and desired to an ante-mortem statement. Several witnesses were present and heard the statement made, in which he charged Williams with the crime.

LATER—As we go to press we learn that Davis' condition is now much better, and hopes are entertained for his recovery.

Teachers Who Passed.

Professor J. F. Montgomery, Professor H. W. Demilly and Miss Clara Felkel, constituting a grading committee for county school teachers undergoing examination, have been busy all the past week. The following is the grades made by examinees:

Whites—First Grade, Miss Grace Knapp, Mrs. Martha B. Eppes, Miss Margarette Randolph; Second Grade, B. F. Maxwell, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Eppes and Miss Margaret W. Cotten; Third Grade, Miss Bell Brown.

Colored—Second Grade, Mrs. Hasty Jenkins, Mrs. H. T. Robinson, Mrs. Amanda Parish, Munroe Duncan, Mrs. M. A. Duncan, Miss Ellen Johnson, Miss Carrie B. Richardson; Third Grade, Mrs. Laura Patterson, Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards, Robert H. Patterson, J. H. Wester, Miss Alice Garretts, Mrs. Mary A. Whitaker, Miss Emma J. Reed, Mrs. Mary T. Carr, Miss Fannie Bithewood, A. M. Norman, Henry G. Edwards and J. H. Stroman.

Arrested for Vagrancy.

By instruction of the Board of County Commissioners, Sheriff Pearce, last Thursday, arrested fourteen young negro boys and men on the charge of vagrancy and habitual loafing on the streets and around the bar rooms. They were brought up before Judge Whitfield and required to show by witnesses that they were already employed or their willingness to be employed. After a plain talk from Sheriff Pearce, who promised to find work for any of them who desired work, in the cotton fields about the city, and an additional warning from Judge Whitfield not to be caught loafing again, they were discharged.

Allen Halverson of West Prairie, Wis., says: "people come ten miles to buy Foley's Kidney Cure," while J. A. Spero of Helmer, Ind., says: "it is the medical wonder of the age." Wight & Bro.